

Impacting Reproductive Care Worldwide

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March 8, 2021

The Honorable Gary A. Winfield The Honorable Steven J. Stafstrom Joint Committee on Judiciary Connecticut General Assembly 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Chairs Winfield and Stafstrom and Members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary:

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of reproductive medicine, I write in strong support of Proposed Bill No. 6321, An Act Concerning the Adoption and Implementation of the Connecticut Parentage Act (CPA).

A child's legal relationship to their parent or parents – parentage – is critical to their well-being and healthy development. From that core legal relationship, numerous rights and responsibilities flow, including the right to care, financial support, medical insurance, and decision-making.

The CPA will update Connecticut's parentage law to promote the security of all children, regardless of the circumstances of their birth, or the marital status, gender, or sexual orientation of their parents. Current Connecticut parentage law is outdated. The CPA will correct harmful gaps in current law, aligning it to the realities of modern families. Most importantly, the CPA will protect children and enable parents to provide the necessary security for their families.

It is the role of the legislature to pass protections that ensure that all Connecticut children have equal access to the security of legal parentage. We support comprehensive reform that reflects best practices and that recognizes, respects and protects all diverse families that enrich the state.



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Thank you for your consideration of our support for **Proposed Bill No. 6321**. Please do not hesitate to contact our Office of Public Affairs with any questions you may have: Becca O'Connor, Director of Government Affairs, can be reached at: boconnor@asrm.org; 617.270.4465.

Sincerely,

Hugh Taylor, M.D.

President